Region 2

The Heart Galleries of Texas is transforming the future for youth who have experienced foster care. Backed by $24 million in funding from the 88th and 89th Legislative Sessions, Texas is expanding the Heart Gallery model statewide and building a powerful network of post-adoption support and training. This includes dedicated post-adopt funding distributed to organizations across the regions to help families stay connected to resources long after adoption—ensuring lasting stability and healing.

This investment ensures that families formed through adoption, kinship, and guardianship receive the tools and resources they need to thrive. By strengthening families through these regional partnerships, the Heart Galleries are helping children find lifelong belonging and preventing re-entry into foster care—creating brighter futures across Texas.

About the Heart Gallery of Northwest Texas

Heart Gallery Organization: Texas Family Initiative – 2INgage
Website: https://www.heartgallerynwtexas.org/
Launch Events: March 24, 2025

The Heart Gallery of Northwest Texas came to life in 2023 through Texas Family Initiative – 2 Ingage, covering a wide 30-county region with strong hubs in Abilene, Brownwood and Wichita Falls. What makes this gallery stand out is its creativity and deep local roots. Child portraits don't just hang on walls—they show up in unexpected, heartwarming ways: riding on community parade floats, shining as ornaments on Christmas trees, or on yard signs at local fairs. Each display sparks conversations and keeps the stories of children in foster care at the center of community life. With strong ties to local child welfare boards, this Heart Gallery team is passionate about sharing stories face-to-face. Nearly 10,000 people have been reached through community events, stakeholder meetings, and foster/adopt information sessions. And the impact is undeniable—of the 61 children featured this year, 28 have been placed in adoptive homes.

Impact in FY2025

61	**Children featured on a Heart Gallery website**
101	**Exhibits**
28	**Children removed from Heart Gallery due to adoptive placement**
5K	**Heart Gallery website clicks**
18	**Families received basic and emergency assistance**
14	**Clients received mental health services**
13	**Families received respite services**
61	**Participated in normalcy and family bonding services**

Beyond connecting children with families, this region is building a strong network of post-adoption supports across Northwest Texas—helping with basic needs, mental health services, family activities, respite care, support groups, and training for those who work with adoptive families. Although some early challenges slowed down the use of funds, the team has worked hard to simplify processes and strengthen their program for the year ahead to ensure that families can easily access the support they need to thrive long after adoption day.

Heart Galleries of Texas is a collaboration between The Moritz Center for Societal Impact, Texas Institute for Child & Family Wellbeing and The Center for Child & Family Studies.